

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 183307 TOSEC 080115

NODIS
FOR THE SECRETARY FROM CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), PFOR

SUBJECT: EVENING READING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF THURSDAY'S EVENING READING:

1. MCGOVERN AMENDMENT PASSES. THE MCGOVERN AMENDMENT ON VISITOR VISAS WAS ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE YESTERDAY WHEN THE CONFERENCE REPORT ON THE STATE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL WAS APPROVED. AS YOU WILL RECALL, THE AMENDMENT REQUIRES THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO RECOMMEND THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL APPROVE THE ISSUANCE OF A VISA TO ANY ALIEN EXCLUDABLE FROM THE US SOLELY BECAUSE OF MEMBERSHIP IN A PROSCRIBED ORGANIZATION. ALTHOUGH A "DEAR COLLEAGUE" LETTER CRITICAL OF THE AMENDMENT WAS CIRCULATED BY CONGRESSMAN LARRY MACDONALD, THE PROVISION WENT THROUGH UNOPPOSED. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GEORGE MEANY VOICED HIS OBJECTIONS TO ZABLOCKI, BUT LABOR MADE NO REAL EFFORT TO

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DEFEAT THE AMENDMENT. MCGOVERN AND FASCELL HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY WILL NOW WATCH CLOSELY TO ASSURE THAT MEMBERS OF PROSCRIBED ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING COMMUNIST LABOR LEADERS, RECEIVE VISAS WHEN OTHERWISE QUALIFIED.

2. BELIZE DISPUTE. THE RECENT TENSION OVER BELIZE HAS DIMINISHED FOLLOWING THE JULY 26-28 VISIT TO GUATEMALA BY BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE ROWLANDS. WHILE THE MOOD

OF THE VISIT HAD BEEN FRIENDLY, THE BRITISH TOLD US THERE WAS ONLY A GENERAL, INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION ON THE KEY ISSUE -- CESSION OF SOME OF BELIZE'S TERRITORY TO GUATEMALA. OUR INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT THE BRITISH WERE READY TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL THEY MENTIONED TO US HERE IN JULY, BUT THE GUATEMALANS STUDIOUSLY AVOIDED PROBING QUESTIONS.

PRESIDENT PEREZ OF VENEZUELA PLANS TO RAISE THE BELIZE ISSUE WITH ANDY YOUNG DURING ANDY'S UPCOMING VISIT, AND WE EXPECT SEVERAL OTHER CARIBBEAN LEADERS TO DO SO ALSO. ANDY WILL URGE THEM NOT TO FORCE THE ISSUE IN THE UN AS LONG AS THERE IS HOPE FOR PROGRESS IN THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES WHICH RESUME IN SEPTEMBER.

3. RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE. OUR DELEGATION TO THE JOINT US-SOVIET WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE (ONE OF THE WORKING GROUPS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE VANCE-GROMYKO AGREEMENT) HAS INFORMED US BY TELEPHONE FROM GENEVA THAT THE SOVIET SIDE TODAY PUT FORWARD THE TEXT OF A DRAFT CONVENTION ON BANNING RADIOLOGICAL WARFARE. OUR DELEGATION BELIEVES THE SOVIET DRAFT IS A SERIOUS EFFORT TO ACHIEVE AN EARLY AGREEMENT ON THIS SUBJECT AND REGARDS IT AS BEING CLOSE ENOUGH TO THE US POSITION TO WARRANT SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

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4. WALDHEIM AND NAMIBIA. YOU ASKED WHETHER YOU SHOULD WRITE TO WALDHEIM ASKING HIM TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR A UN PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA. WE BELIEVE THAT SUCH A LETTER COULD VERY WELL BE EFFECTIVE AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE TALKS BETWEEN THE CONTACT GROUP AND SWAPO WHICH BEGIN NEXT WEEK. UP TO THIS POINT, WALDHEIM HAS BEEN MORE CAUTIOUS THAN NEED BE, EVEN ALLOWING FOR HIS CONCERN THAT HE AVOID INITIATIVES TO WHICH THE AFRICANS HAVE NOT YET GIVEN THEIR UNQUALIFIED SUPPORT.

5. THE EXTENSION OF OPIC. ON THE NIGHT NOTE FOR AUGUST 2, YOU ASKED WHY WE SHOULD FAVOR AN EXTENSION OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION (OPIC). OPIC IS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL MEANS WE AS A GOVERNMENT HAVE TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE TRANSFERS OF CAPITAL, TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. OPIC DOES THIS BY PROVIDING POLITICAL RISK INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEES. THE PROPOSALS WE HAVE BEFORE THE CONGRESS

NOW INCLUDE OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES TO OPIC WHICH WILL FOCUS ITS EFFORTS MORE ON THE POORER COUNTRIES AND ENCOURAGE SMALLER AMERICAN FIRMS TO INVEST IN THEM. WE

ALSO HOPE THAT IN THE FUTURE OPIC WILL PLAY A MORE
IMPORTANT ROLE IN STIMULATING OIL AND MINERALS EXPLORA-
TION AND DEVELOPMENT.

OPIC HAS THUS FAR BEEN ABLE TO FINANCE ITS OPERATIONS
AND PAY CLAIMS ENTIRELY OUT OF ITS PREMIUM EARNINGS.
MOREOVER, IT HAS STEADILY INCREASED ITS INSURANCE
RESERVES, WHICH NOW STAND AT OVER 207 MILLION DOLLARS AND
IT IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO BE SELF-SUSTAINING. OPIC
PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN WELL-RECEIVED AND HIGHLY-VALUED BY
BOTH THE HOST COUNTRIES INVOLVED AND US INDUSTRY. CHRISTOPHER

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